

Brown Foundation Fellows July to December 2009



Robert Ruello is a painter who lives and works in the gulf coast region of America. With the assistance of a computer, Ruello creates his images by manipulating and remixing art historical painting, consumer product packaging, and his own photographs. During Dora Maar residency, he explored and fused together two different themes of 19th century landscape painting. The century

begins with the sublime of Romanticism and ends with the optics of Impressionism. He blended both ideas together for a series of paintings and drawings.

Seven weeks, July 2 -- August 21, 2009



Jennifer Atkinson is the author of three collections of poetry, *The Dogwood Tree*, *The Drowned City*, and most recently, *Drift Ice*, which was published last summer by Etruscan Press. She was educated at Wesleyan University and the University of Iowa and teaches in the Master of Fine Arts program in poetry writing at George Mason University in Virginia. While at Dora Maar House, she worked on a sequence of lyric poems called Canticles some of which touch on the legendary and historical character of Mary Magdalen. . "I tell my students that poetry demands almost equal parts industry and idleness, but most times it's very hard to find time to work --- never mind to muse idly. Dora Maar House generously offers both."

One month, July 1 - July 31, 2009



Hunter Vaughan is a Lecturer of Film and Media Studies at Washington University in St. Louis. His research and teaching interests focus on film and philosophy, international cinema, digital media and transnational cinema, and problems of race and gender in film and television. While at Dora Maar House, Vaughan worked on a book project on the French Philosophy of Cinema, a recent movement among French philosophers that attempts to re-frame twentieth century history as being

specifically entwined with the history and affect of the moving image. Vaughan described Dora Maar House as "the most conducive atmosphere I have ever worked in, the only threat coming in the form of too much beauty and comfort!"

Three weeks, August 1 - August 21, 2009



Maxine Swann has published two novels, *Serious Girls* and, most recently, *Flower Children*, for which she received the Harold D. Vursell Memorial Award from The Academy of Arts and Letters honoring “writing in book form that merits recognition for the quality of its prose style.” She received the O Henry Prize, Puchkart Prize and Best American Short Story award for her short fiction. At the Dora Maar House, she worked on her third novel, *The Foreigners*, which traces the lives of three foreign women who move to Buenos Aires. The book is part of a projected trilogy examining themes of emigration and foreignness, with the next two novels set in Pakistan and Estonia. She lives between Brooklyn, New York and Buenos Aires with the Argentine journalist, Martin Sivak.

One month, August 2 – September 1, 2009



Martin Sivak was born in Buenos Aires. A journalist since the age of eighteen, he has written for newspapers and magazines throughout Latin America and co-hosted radio and television programs. He is the author of five non-fiction books. The last one, *Jefazo. Retrato Intimo de Evo Morales* (a portrait of the Bolivian president) was a Latin American best-seller. It was also published in France and the US. During his residence at the Dora Maar House, Sivak worked on the first chapter of his new book. “The newspaper that governed Argentina: the story of Clarín. Journalism, the Public Sphere and Economic Transformation in Argentina, 1945-2001.” Sivak came to Dora Maar House with his partner the novelist, Maxine Swann.

Three weeks, August 9 – September 1, 2009



In her exploration of landscapes, **Libbie Masterson** traveled extensively through Norway, Iceland, Alaska, and Antarctica, and created a series photographic installations illuminated with light panels scaling up to 75 feet in length. These installations were shown at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, the Barbara Davis Gallery, Houston, and the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston. In 2008 she created her first stage design, based on her travels to Antarctica. Commissioned by the Dominic Walsh Dance Theatre, “Amadeus” was performed in Houston, Sarasota Florida, New York and Tokyo, Japan. Last year Masterson was awarded an Individual Artist Grant from the Houston Arts Alliance for the creation of a photographic installation exhibited over the Winter

of 09-10. This installation is part of a series of black and white imagery shot at night. During her residency at the Dora Maar House, she continued this series, focusing on the landscape of Provence. In the Spring of 2010, Masterson completed a glass mural commission for the Amazing Place, Houston, toured with the Ballet Amadeus to Dallas and Tokyo, and exhibited a series of photographs during Fotofest at Wade Wilson Fine Art, Houston. **Five weeks, August 27 – October 7, 2009**



Nene Humphrey is a mixed media artist who has exhibited extensively in the United States and Europe, including The High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA, The Sculpture Center, NYC, The Mead Museum, Amherst MA, The Palmer Museum, Penn State, PA. the Havana Biennial and most recently at the Lesley Heller Gallery in New York City. She has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Smithsonian Institution, The Asian Cultural Council, the Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and the Anonymous Was A Woman Fellowship, among others. Articles about her work have appeared in *Art in America*, *Art News*, *Arts and Sculpture* magazines, the *New York Times*, *Village Voice*, and her work was featured on the cover of the June 2009 issue of *Art News*. While at the Dora Maar House, Humphrey worked on a series of drawings to accompany a performance piece, *circling the center* for sound and six weavers, which premiered in January 2010.

<http://www.icecoldthrills.com/nene/index.php?/project/video/>

www.nenehumphrey.com

One month, September 2 – October 5, 2009



Allison Funk is an American poet who teaches at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. She is the author of four books of poems, the most recent of which is *The Tumbling Box*, published in 2009. Her other books include *The Knot Garden*; *Forms of Conversion*; and *Living at the Epicenter*, which won the Samuel French Morse Poetry Prize and the Society of Midland Authors Award. She is the recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Delaware and Illinois Arts Councils, and the Poetry Society of America. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies including *Poetry*, *Paris Review*, *Poetry Review (U.K.)*, *The Best American Poetry*, and *When*

She Named Fire: An Anthology of Contemporary American Poetry by Women. While in Ménerbes, Allison Funk began work on a creative non-fiction piece titled *The Wonder-Room: Inventions on the Life and Art of Dora Maar*, which is set in Provence.

www.allisonfunk.com

One month, September 1 – September 30



Cindi Strauss is curator of modern and contemporary decorative arts and design at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston where she is responsible for post-1900 decorative arts, design, and craft. She has a B.A. with honors in art history from Hamilton College and an M.A. in the history of decorative arts from the Cooper-Hewitt/Parsons School of Design. Strauss reported that, "The outcome of my fellowship was many-fold. I completed a good number of object entries for the upcoming catalogue of the Garth Clark ceramics collection; I undertook research for forthcoming entries that will be written over the next few months; and perhaps, most importantly, I was able to

outline the content and tone of the book as well as consider the ways in which it should and should not interact with the concurrent exhibition that will be held in 2012."

One Month, October 24 – November 24



Fabianny Deschamps is a screenplay writer and director, based in Paris. She began her film career as a set designer and assistant director before creating her own short films. She has since written and directed five short films and video pieces including, *histories de bonsaï, en mon sein, le grand bassin et la lisière*. Along with her work as a director, Deschamps works as a screenplay writer, developer and consultant often on new projects for the theater and for visual artists. In July 2010 she had a solo exhibit of her work “*infâncias perdidas*” at l’Institut franco portugais de Lisbonne, in Portugal, which took the form of an interactive installation of biographies and photographic portraits. Her first full-length film, *les garçons perdus*, is currently in production. She also has exhibitions of her work

forthcoming in May and August of 2011.

Five weeks, October 26 -- December 7